

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Seventh Meeting
September 28-29, 1972

Minutes

Members present: Aines, Becker, Cuadra, Dunlap, Goland, Lerner, Lorenz
(for Dr. Mumford), Moore, Scott, Velde, and Burkhardt
(Chairman)

Staff present : Reszetar, Stevens, and Swartz

The meetings were convened in the Trust Department Conference Room of the First National Bank of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

Staff Activities

Mr. Stevens presented an outline of the staff activities. These activities included trips and speeches; scheduled meetings with USOE; contacting Rolland Stevens as investigator for the ARL contract; Chicago and San Francisco hearing preparations; meetings with the Office of Management and Budget (NCLIS will probably be authorized to request between \$400,000 and \$750,000 for FY '74); and drafting of the annual report. Mr. Stevens stated that he felt that additional staff will be needed to fulfill the needs of the Commission.

A brochure is being developed by staff to answer inquiries for NCLIS information as well as requests for public appearances. It is expected to be completed within the next three months. The brochure will supplement press releases; no newsletter is to be prepared for the present.

Chicago Hearing

Extensive discussion on the Chicago hearing testimony mentioned the need to reframe the letter of invitation. The Commission agreed to provide Mr. Al Trezza, Director, Illinois State Library, with copies of all testimony received for possible publication. The staff will invite more persons from the media, communication, and technological fields to be heard in the San Francisco hearing. Mr. Lerner will produce press releases for the hometown newspapers of each testifier. He will also write a press release outlining the hearing and the Commission meeting. There was discussion of the best means to hear future volunteer public testifiers. Several ideas were suggested: Reduce time to brief statements without questions; drawing of names of persons to be heard; and divide Commission members into groups for simultaneous hearings.

Fiscal Review

A final financial statement for 1972 was distributed. Mrs. Reszetar outlined the Commission's expenditures, obligations, and balance; all but \$866.05, \$200,000 was used or committed.

Contracts:

Parker, Bourne--Dr. Cuadra presented a report on the contract with Dr. Parker. A draft report will be delivered to the committee in late November for comments. A draft report of the University of California contract is also expected in late November for reaction before final copy is prepared. Dr. Cuadra reported on meetings between Drs. Parker and Bourne and Messrs. Becker, Zipf and himself to discuss contract work.

Dr. Cuadra stated the necessity to have a definitive statement on user needs for library and information service by June 30, 1973. This statement would define user needs for a five-year period, 1975-1980. As a means of achieving this objective, Dr. Cuadra suggested there be either a conference or a number of smaller conferences in the spring with working groups assigned to use the materials that Parker and Bourne produce to formulate statements about the library-information needs of particular groups. The Commission should then produce a framework which would be translated by the Commission staff into a final report on this topic.

After extensive conversation regarding the need, objective and procedure for an NCLIS conference, the Chairman suggested that a staff member or Commission member talk first with either a good polling agency or a market-survey type organization to determine what information they could gather on user needs. The cost of this type of project will be discussed at the December Commission meeting.

Dr. Cuadra described a study funded by the U.S. Office of Education to develop a policy position regarding the support of public libraries. OE is considering a range of alternatives, from cutting back the money to zero all the way up to a complete federally-supported public library system.

Public Administration Service--A preliminary document, *"Patterns Among the States for Supporting Public Library Services,"* was discussed. Mr. Lerner is not satisfied with the performance of PAS in relation to the work required by contract. Mr. Lerner stated his desire that the PAS change their course of action and reconsider their recommendations. Mr. Stevens and Mr. Lerner will coordinate further work on this contract with PAS. The Chairman asked Mrs. Moore to review the preliminary report of PAS and decide what response the congressmen and people in various states would have to this study. Mr. Lerner suggested, and the Chairman agreed, that it might provide useful to the Commission to get "feedback" on this document from Lowell Martin at Columbia. Mr. Lerner agreed to handle this assignment.

ARL--Mr. Rolland Stevens, University of Illinois, Library School, expects to complete his work on this study for ARL and present a report before March 31, 1973. ARL will convene a committee to work on the project and the report. The following persons are suggested for this committee: Evan Farber, Indiana; Efren Gonzalez, New Jersey; McAnally, Oklahoma; John Humphry, New York State; Ralph Hopp, Minnesota; Al Trezza, Illinois; and Les Dunlap, ex officio for the Commission.

ERIC--In discussing the literature review project being developed with ERIC, Mr. Swartz outlined the four major areas of interest; the essential contribution of technology; financial consideration for libraries and information centers; needs of users; and library information networks. ERIC will provide NCLIS with a bibliography, abstracts of the literature most relevant to the Commission's charge, and a commentary highlighting areas of strength and areas where research is weak or non-existent.

Patrick-Cooper Paper

A summary of the Patrick-Cooper paper was provided to each Commission member. Comments on this summary were invited by Mr. Stevens. The Patrick-Cooper paper provides a partial analysis of the information needs of the nation.

October 27 Hearing

A meeting was announced for October 27 in Washington, D.C. In preparation for this hearing, the following persons agreed to serve as monitors to abstract testimony and develop pertinent questions:

Public Library Association (ALA)	- Moore, Swartz
National Book Committee	- Velde
EDUCOM	- Becker
Independent Research Libraries	- Dunlap
Council of National Libraries Association	- Lorenz
NELINET	- Aines
Federal Communications Commission	- Lerner
U.S. Book Exchange	- Lorenz, Scott
National Federation of Science Abstracting and Indexing Services	- Goland, Stevens
National Technical Information Service	- Baker
Information Industry Association	- Zipf
Federal Library Committee	- Cuadra

National Center for Educational Statistics

Mr. Swartz outlined a two-day meeting at NCES. The purpose was to comment on the approach now being used to get library statistics and to the review of documents newly revised for this purpose. The two basic problems are: comprehensiveness and promptness.

Committee on Adequacies and Deficiencies

A paper by Messrs. Stevens, Swartz and Lorenz identifying deficiencies and attempting to categorize them into an organized framework was distributed. Mr. Swartz stated that the next steps of the committee would be to define the areas outlined and determine action priorities.

NCLIS Logo

Rather than attempt to register the logo and raise an issue with the Patent Office, the Commission will file with the Trademark Operations Section of the Patent Office a notice of the formal adoption of the logo as its emblem. The Commission approved a motion to effect this action. Mr. Lerner showed samples of jewelry bearing the logo.

Revenue Sharing

Mrs. Moore reported on libraries and the Revenue Sharing Act. The act is not restrictive; money may be used for maintenance, operations or buildings. Libraries will have to compete with the other community needs. Decision for allocation of state shares will be made by state legislatures. The amount for cities and counties will be dispersed by local governments.

NCLIS Vice Chairman

The Chairman announced the expiration of Miss Scott's term as Vice Chairman on July 19. Col. Aines nominated, and Dean Dunlap seconded the nomination of, Mrs. Moore. Mrs. Moore was elected unanimously to serve until July 19, 1973.

NCLIS Gifts and Contributions

A memorandum on gifts and contributions prepared by Mr. Stevens was discussed. The policy agreed upon is that the staff will not accept gifts or contributions for the Commission; the responsibility for acceptance remains with the Commission and the staff is not to act on the Commission's behalf. The gift or contribution will be presented to the Commission to receive or refuse. The staff will solicit gifts and contributions, however.

New Areas of Investigation:

Technology and MARC--The Chairman asked for suggestions for new areas of investigation. Mr. Becker suggested the area of technology and MARC. Mr. Becker stated that there has been an L.C. program on retrospective conversion of catalog information to the MARC data base. A recent survey reveals mushrooming interest in MARC and its application. NCLIS should try to accelerate its implementation as a boon to the development of a national system. The major bottleneck at the present time is funds. The Library of Congress has gone back to 1968; libraries have materials on file which predate 1968 and independent conversion of catalogs would be wasteful duplication.

The Library of Congress: The National Library of the U.S.--Another suggestion for "new areas of investigation" was the Library of Congress as the national library. In this discussion, Mr. Lorenz stated that the L.C. would favor designation as "The Library of Congress: The National Library of the United States." Mr. Lorenz further stated that because of the serious space problems, congressional approval, and administrative problems, it could be three years before L.C. could undertake aggressive national leadership as The national library.

Mr. Goland suggested, and the Chairman agreed, that a study of the national library should be done by the Commission and not by an outside group at Commission request. Mr. Goland suggested the Commission hold open hearings on designation of a national library and the Chairman agreed. Col. Aines requested that the record state his opinion that if such discussions are held, Commission representatives from the Library of Congress should not be involved.

It was decided that the Commission Committee on the Library of Congress would study this problem in depth and present its findings to the Commission.

Copyright

Mr. Stevens reported a meeting he attended with Messrs. Charles Leib and Robert Frase, book publishers' representatives, in an effort to keep in touch with the developments between the publishers and the librarians regarding the copyright problem. The Commission will continue to study the proposed legislation and, if required, make a further statement on the Commission's position. The Chairman appointed Miss Scott and Messrs. Lorenz and Goland (Chairman) as members of the Committee on Copyright.

Mr. Lorenz asked that the staff monitor the copyright legislation proposals to find out whether or not there is an agreement and, if so, what that agreement specifies. He further requested that the Commission members be notified of the agreement that will go to Congress so the Commission may act if necessary.

Annual Report

Mr. Stevens asked for the Commission members' input for the annual report. He presented a preliminary outline of the contents of the report.

Establishment and Continuation of Advisory Committees

Mr. Stevens referred to House Report 4383 and Senate Report 3529 regarding the establishment and continuation of advisory committees and other Federal Government commissions and the possible effect upon NCLIS. He stated that he met with the Senate Committee on Government Operations to determine the Commission's position. Mr. Stevens stated that this matter would be pursued to determine if the Commission is excluded from this legislation. If it is not, the staff will do the necessary work to obtain automatic continuation of NCLIS.